IATA Airport Peer Review

Introduction

Airport infrastructure programs, including master plans should be reviewed throughout the planning process and prior to their formal approval. Failure to do so at an early stage often lead to costly mistakes and time consuming and unnecessary debate between airport authorities and their key stakeholders.

Therefore, IATA seeks to engage with airports to foster a meaningful review process that applies global best practices and considers the views of airlines and other users.

IATA recommends consultations between airports and airlines before any major investment decisions are made. This can result in a better understanding of user requirements and the operational and passenger impacts of planned infrastructure. Such engagement helps ensure that infrastructure programs can flexibly meet current and future needs.

IATA can further support sound airport infrastructure planning by providing high-level assessments. IATA Airport Peer Reviews leverage IATA’s exposure to a world-wide range of airport projects and the experience gained from developing industry guidance material such as the Airport Development Reference Manual 12th edition.

Reasons for an IATA Peer Review

An IATA Airport Peer Review provides a quick, convenient check of the strengths and weaknesses of airport plans and recommendations on how they might be improved.

The aims of the review include ensuring that plans:

- Incorporate a user perspective and industry requirements at an early stage.
- Align capacity expansion triggers with actual/forecast demand in a balanced and phased approach.
- Use a flexible and modular design that enables enhancements to individual subsystems and facilities without unnecessary disruption.
- Incorporate airline operational requirements and an agreed concept of operations within the functional design solution.
- Identify potential bottlenecks to passenger and baggage flows including risks to maintaining an Optimum Level of Service.
- Ensure that airfield infrastructure maintains a continuous flow of aircraft ground movements and maximizes operational efficiency.
- Optimize capital investments and promote cost-effective design solutions that are affordable to develop and operate.
- Bolster the credibility airport plans and generate support among airlines and other stakeholders.

Peer Review Scope and Duration

The IATA Airport Peer Review is intended to be a concise, high-level assessment of an airport’s conceptual plans (e.g., master plans). The exact scope of each review will depend upon the needs of the airport and the complexity of the plans.

The Peer Review is conducted over a brief, condensed period by members of IATA’s Airport Development. If requested, the local AOC, BAR, and airlines can be involved.

The Peer Review is conducted in a discrete manner and the data and results will be treated as confidential. It is up to the airport to decide how the report will be shared.

Here is how it works

The below steps describe the typical process:

- IATA member airlines and/or the airport authority requests a ‘Peer Review’ of the airport’s development plans by contacting IATA’s regional representatives or the IATA Airport Development team.
The scope and timeline are reviewed and confirmed.

Requests that require detailed analysis or are beyond the scope or intent of the Peer Review program may be, with the permission of the airport, referred to IATA’s Consulting team.

The airport appoints a representative to coordinate the required data collection and a one-day onsite visit by IATA.

Copies of material to be reviewed and discussed should be sent to IATA at least two weeks in advance.

IATA will analyze the materials and then conduct a one-day assessment visit to the airport which will consist of a walk-around inspection of major facilities followed by an interactive workshop.

A concise report highlighting IATA’s findings and recommendations will be delivered after the assessment.

Typical Data Request

The quality and completeness of the submitted data/information will affect the findings. The data requested will depend upon the nature of the review but typically includes:

- Relevant presentations on the topics to be assessed e.g., Airport Master Plan
- Annual forecasts for passengers, cargo, and aircraft movements
- Design Peak Hour passenger figures (departing and arriving) and Passenger Transfer Rate
- Assumptions on Level of Service (space and waiting time) and Concept of Operations
- Current and planned number of contact and remote stands broken out by narrow and wide bodies
- Gross Floor Areas (GFA) for existing and future design terminal; breakout for check-in, security, emigration, immigration, gate lounge area, baggage reclaim, and commercial.

Cost

There is no charge for the IATA Airport Peer Review service except for assistance in covering the travel expenses of the IATA team’s onsite visit.

Contact

For more information, please contact your IATA Regional office or the IATA Airport Development team at: airportdevelopment@iata.org